



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



April 2001

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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### ILLINOIS, Northwest

#### Henderson County

**Gladstone**      **05**      **0820CST**           **0**      **0**                **Hail (0.75)**  
Penny sized hail reported by Henderson County Health Department

#### Hancock County

**.5 W Bentley**      **05**      **0917CST**           **0**      **0**                **Hail (1.00)**  
Quarter sized hail covering the ground over a half mile swath. Snowplows dispatched to clear roads. Reported by law enforcement.

#### Henderson County

**3 NE Gulfport**      **05**      **0938CST**           **0**      **0**                **Hail (1.00)**  
Trained storm spotters reported quarter sized hail.

#### Mcdonough County

**Colmar**      **05**      **0944CST**           **0**      **0**                **Hail (0.75)**  
Emergency management reported penny sized hail.

#### Mcdonough County

**Fandon**      **05**      **0950CST**           **0**      **0**                **Hail (0.88)**  
Emergency management reported nickel sized hail.

#### Henderson County

**Oquawka**      **05**      **1000CST**           **0**      **0**                **Hail (0.75)**  
A trained storm spotter reported penny sized hail.

#### Mcdonough County

**5 S Macomb**      **05**      **1003CST**           **0**      **0**                **Hail (1.00)**  
A trained storm spotter reported quarter sized hail.

#### Mcdonough County

**5 S Macomb**      **05**      **1018CST**           **0**      **0**                **Hail (1.75)**  
A trained storm spotter reported golf ball sized hail.

#### Mcdonough County

**Macomb**      **05**      **1028CST**           **0**      **0**                **Hail (0.75)**  
A trained storm spotter reported penny sized hail.

#### Henderson County

**Oquawka**      **05**      **1100CST**           **0**      **0**                **Urban/Sml Stream Fld**  
1.8 inches of rainfall produced local urban flooding in a trailer park. Reported by a trained storm spotter

#### Mcdonough County

**2 S Macomb to Adair**      **05**      **1130CST**           **0**      **0**                **Hail (0.75)**  
Hail up to penny sized covering the ground from south of Macomb to Adair. Reported by emergency management.

Event Summary for 4/5/01: (For additional details, see individual reports for the date)

An area of showers and thunderstorms overspread parts of far northeast Missouri, southeast Iowa, and west central Illinois during the morning hours. The primary threats from the storms were large hail and torrential rains, with amounts up to three inches. From the morning through the early afternoon, hail up to the size of golf balls was reported, along with urban street flooding, and flooding of county roads. One person suffered minor injuries after being struck by lightning, and lightning also struck a house, setting it on fire. A surface low and warm front lifted northeast through the region during the afternoon and evening, followed by a trailing cold front. This system produced hail below severe limits across the area from late afternoon through the evening hours.

#### Henry County

**Galva**      **06**      **1020CST**           **0**      **0**                **Hail (0.88)**  
Nickel sized hail reported by trained storm spotter.



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### ILLINOIS, Northwest

ILZ001

Jo Daviess

07 1100CST

0 0

High Wind (G53)<sup>M</sup>

Non-thunderstorm gradient wind gust of 61 mph measured by Cooperative Observer, three miles N/NE of Stockton. Shingles blown off roofs throughout the community.

Event summary for 4/7/01: (For additional details, see individual entry for the date)

A very strong low pressure center tracked N/NE from Nebraska through Minnesota. The tight pressure gradient produced by the surface low, along with daytime heating, created very strong winds across northwest Illinois through much of the day, beginning around mid morning and ending around sunset. A southwest wind was sustained at 30 to 35 mph, with gusts from 50 to 55 mph. An isolated gust of 61 mph was measured in Jo Daviess county at 11 AM CST, but most of the area remained below High Wind Warning criteria, which is sustained speeds of at least 40 mph (34 knots) for an extended period of time, or a gust to at least 58 mph (50 knots). Wind damage and power outages were widespread throughout the area, as the high winds blew trees down on power lines, or snapped the power poles themselves. According to newspaper accounts, an estimated 20-thousand people lost power across eastern Iowa and northwest Illinois. Numerous trees and power lines were downed, and shingles and siding were blown off buildings and homes. High winds blew a sheet of tin off a shed roof in Carroll county. Law enforcement in Bureau county reported two accidents involving semi-trailer trucks resulting from the high winds. There were no injuries reported

Henry County

Galva

09 1613CST  
1615CST

0 0

Hail (1.00)

Nickel to quarter sized hail covering the ground. Reported by trained storm spotter

Henry County

Galva

09 1617CST

0 0

Hail (1.75)

Ping pong to golfball sized hail reported by trained storm spotter.

Henry County

Galva

09 1625CST

0 0

Hail (1.75)

Heavy golfball sized hail continuing. Reported by emergency management.

Bureau County

Manlius

09 1820CST

0 0

Hail (0.75)

Penny sized hail reported by trained storm spotter.

Bureau County

Dover

09 1830CST

0 0

Hail (0.75)

Penny sized hail reported by trained storm spotter.

Summary for 4/09/01 event: (For additional information, see individual reports for the date)

A stationary front lingered across southern Iowa and northern Illinois during the day. A surface low was located along the front in southeast Iowa. Following the early morning activity, thunderstorms reired across parts of east central Iowa after 7 AM CST. These storms produced locally heavy rain and hail ranging in size from 1/2 to 3/4 inch. After a lull from mid-morning through the afternoon, thunderstorms redeveloped near the boundary in northwest Illinois from late afternoon through early evening. Large hail was the main threat from the storms, with sized ranging from 3/4 inch up to golfball sized. Wind gusts to 50 mph were also reported in Bureau county.

ILZ001-007-009-015-  
024>025-034

Jo Daviess - Carroll - Whiteside - Rock Island - Mercer - Henderson - Hancock

14 1700CST  
30 2359CST

0 0

Snowmelt Flooding



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### ILLINOIS, Northwest

During the first week of April a strong storm system fanned warm temperatures northward accelerating the snowmelt across the upper Mississippi river basin. Another storm system mid month sent even warmer temperatures surging northward along with severe thunderstorms and heavy rain. The prolonged abnormally warm conditions resulted in rapid snow melt and produced near record flooding over counties bordering the Mississippi River. Additional heavy rain fell over the headwaters of the Mississippi during the third week of April. This added streamflow led to secondary crests over Minnesota, Northern Iowa, and Wisconsin, and helped to prolong the flooding, or broaden crests on the Mississippi from the Wisconsin/ Illinois border to counties north of St Louis Missouri. Strong winds accompanying the storms forced water over sandbag dykes and levees causing additional damage. At Moline additional flooding occurred when backwaters from the Mississippi caused flooding at the mouth of the Rock River. To aid with flood preparations, the Illinois Department of Transportation distributed and pre-positioned 692,000 sandbags to flood prone areas. Communities impacted by flooding called upon the Illinois Dept of Corrections, the Illinois Dept of Public Health, the Illinois Dept of Natural resources, and hundreds of volunteers to help with sandbagging and flood fighting efforts. By late month 8 Illinois counties had been declared disaster areas, with damages and related flood costs estimated to be several million dollars. Flooding continued along the Mississippi River from East Dubuque IL to Quincy IL into May.

**ILZ001>002-007-009-015>018-024>026-034>035 Jo Daviess - Stephenson - Carroll - Whiteside - Rock Island - Henry - Bureau - Putnam - Mercer - Henderson - Warren - Hancock - McDonough**

23	1000CST 1900CST	0	0		Gradient Wind
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Summary for 4/23/01 gradient wind event:

A vigorous low pressure system in Wisconsin brought a trailing cold front through Iowa and Illinois. The system brought strong gradient winds to western Illinois. From late morning through sunset, a southwest wind gusted over 40 mph across the area. The highest measured speed in northwest Illinois was 46 mph at the Quad City Airport in Moline. There was no significant damage reported.

### IOWA, East Central and Southeast

#### **Jefferson County**

Pleasant Plain	05 0745CST	0	0		Hail (0.88)
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Nickel sized hail reported by law enforcement.

#### **Des Moines County**

Burlington	05 0940CST	0	0		Hail (1.00)
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Quarter sized hail reported by trained storm spotter.

#### **Des Moines County**

Burlington	05 0945CST	0	0	1K	Lightning
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Lightning struck a house, setting it on fire, and damaging appliances. There were no injuries

#### **Des Moines County**

West Burlington	05 0947CST	0	1		Lightning
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One person suffered minor injuries after being struck by lightning in a department store parking lot.

#### **Des Moines County**

2 N Burlington to 5 N Burlington	05 0950CST	0	0		Urban/Sml Stream Fld
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Emergency management reported water over Highway 99, near the Bluffs.

#### **Des Moines County**

Burlington	05 1008CST	0	0		Hail (1.75)
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Golf ball sized hail reported by trained storm spotter.

#### **Delaware County**

4 NE Earlville	05 1320CST	0	0		Hail (0.88)
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Nickel sized hail reported by trained storm spotter.

#### **Louisa County**

Letts	05 2000CST	0	0	5K	Heavy Rain
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According to a newspaper report, city officials blamed heavy rain during the day for the collapse of the roof at the abandoned school



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### IOWA, East Central and Southeast

building in Letts.

Event Summary for 4/5/01: (For additional details, see individual reports for the date)

An area of showers and thunderstorms overspread parts of far northeast Missouri, southeast Iowa, and west central Illinois during the morning hours. The primary threats from the storms were large hail and torrential rains, with amounts up to three inches. From the morning through the early afternoon, hail up to the size of golf balls was reported, along with urban street flooding, and flooding of county roads. One person suffered minor injuries after being struck by lightning, and lightning also struck a house, setting it on fire. A surface low and warm front lifted northeast through the region during the afternoon and evening, followed by a trailing cold front. This system produced hail below severe limits across the area from late afternoon through the evening hours.

IAZ051	<b>Benton</b>								
	07	0923CST			0	0			<b>High Wind (G52)</b>
	Non-thunderstorm gradient wind gusts of 55 to 60 mph estimated throughout the county. Reported by a trained storm spotter.								
IAZ042	<b>Dubuque</b>								
	07	1112CST			0	0			<b>High Wind (G52)</b>
	Non-thunderstorm gradient wind gusts of 50 to 60 mph estimated in Peosta. Reported by a trained storm spotter.								
IAZ068	<b>Scott</b>								
	07	1141CST			0	0			<b>High Wind (G51)<sup>M</sup></b>
	Non-thunderstorm gradient wind gust of 59 mph measured by NWS ASOS equipment at Davenport Airport.								
IAZ066	<b>Clinton</b>								
	07	1355CST			0	0			<b>High Wind (G51)<sup>M</sup></b>
	Non-thunderstorm gradient wind gust of 59 mph measured by AWOS equipment at Clinton Municipal Airport.								

Event summary for 4/7/01: (For additional details, see individual entries for the date)

A very strong low pressure center tracked N/NE from Nebraska through Minnesota. The tight pressure gradient produced by the surface low, along with daytime heating, created very strong winds across eastern Iowa and northwest Illinois through much of the day, beginning around 8 am and ending around sunset. A southwest wind was sustained at 30 to 35 mph, with gusts from 50 to 55 mph. There were a few isolated wind gusts of 58 to 60 mph across eastern Iowa (see individual reports above), but most of the area remained below High Wind Warning criteria, which is sustained speeds of at least 40 mph (34 knots) for an extended period of time, or a gust to at least 58 mph (50 knots). Wind damage and power outages were widespread throughout the area, as high winds blew trees down on power lines, or snapped the power poles themselves. According to newspaper accounts, an estimated 20-thousand people lost power across eastern Iowa and northwest Illinois. Numerous trees and power lines were downed, and shingles and siding were blown off buildings and homes. The high winds blew a power line down at a rural Johnson county home, which led to a fire that destroyed the structure. A downed power line also caused a fire that damaged a funeral home in Buchanan county. Law enforcement in eastern Iowa reported two accidents resulting from the high winds. There were no injuries



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### IOWA, East Central and Southeast

#### **Delaware County**

**Greeley**      **08**      **1939CST**                **0**      **0**                **Hail (1.00)**  
Quarter sized hail reported by trained storm spotter.

#### **Delaware County**

**Colesburg**      **08**      **1949CST**                **0**      **0**                **Hail (1.00)**  
Quarter sized hail reported by trained storm spotter.

#### **Benton County**

**6 NW Keystone**      **08**      **2028CST**                **0**      **0**                **Hail (1.00)**  
Quarter sized hail at the intersection of Highway 21 and county road E36. Reported by trained storm spotter.

#### **Benton County**

**Garrison**      **08**      **2046CST**                **0**      **0**                **Hail (0.88)**  
Nickel sized hail reported by trained storm spotter.

#### **Benton County**

**6 WNW Keystone**      **08**      **2050CST**      **0.1**      **10**      **0**      **0**      **0**      **Tornado (F0)**  
**2051CST**  
Brief tornado touchdown on the Benton/Tama county line at Highway 21. No injuries or damage reported.

#### **Buchanan County**

**2 NW Quasqueton**      **08**      **2156CST**                **0**      **0**                **Hail (0.75)**  
Penny sized hail on county highway W35. Reported by trained storm spotter.

#### **Buchanan County**

**2 W Rowley**      **08**      **2242CST**                **0**      **0**                **Urban/Sml Stream Fld**  
Small stream flooding reported by Emergency Management.

#### **Washington County**

**West Chester**      **09**      **0057CST**                **0**      **0**                **Hail (0.75)**  
Penny sized hail reported by trained storm spotter.

#### **Muscatine County**

**3 S West Liberty**      **09**      **0130CST**                **0**      **0**      **10K**      **Thunderstorm Wind**  
Thunderstorm winds destroyed a large shed. Reported in local newspaper. Time is estimated.

Summary for late 4/08/01 to early 4/09/01 event: (For additional details, see individual entries for the dates)

A warm front pushed north through the day on 4/08/01, and extended across southern Iowa and northern Illinois during the evening hours. The boundary combined with a surface wave riding along the front, and an upper-level low, to produce a variety of severe weather during the evening hours of 4/08/01, continuing into the early morning of 4/09/01. Hail from 1/2 inch up to quarter sized was common across parts of northeast and east central Iowa. A brief tornado touchdown occurred in Benton county, and that was the only touchdown of the event. Thunderstorms winds destroyed a large shed in Muscatine county. Some of the thunderstorms produced torrential rain, and caused small streams to come out of their banks in Buchanan county. Thunderstorms continued tracking into northwest Illinois, but hail reports ranged from 1/4 to 1/2 inch, below severe limits

#### **Cedar County**

**Lime City**      **09**      **0740CST**                **0**      **0**                **Hail (0.75)**  
**0744CST**  
Penny sized hail reported by trained storm spotter.

Summary for 4/09/01 event: (For additional information, see individual report for the date.)

A stationary front lingered across southern Iowa and northern Illinois during the day. A surface low was located along the front in southeast Iowa. Following the early morning activity, thunderstorms re-fired across parts of east central Iowa after 7 AM CST.



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### IOWA, East Central and Southeast

These storms produced locally heavy rain and hail ranging in size from 1/2 to 3/4 inch in Cedar and Scott counties. After a lull from mid-morning through the afternoon, thunderstorms redeveloped near the boundary in northwest Illinois from late afternoon through early evening, and produced hail up to golfball sized

#### **Keokuk County**

**3 SW Kinross to  
Kinross**

**11 1525CST 3 50 0 0 90K Tornado (F0)**  
**1530CST**

An F0 tornado tracked from southwest of Kinross into the community. The public also reported several funnel clouds near the tornado. The tornado damaged farm out buildings. In Kinross, several house were damaged significantly, and many others had roof and siding damage. A shed housing two cars was also destroyed. There was substantial damage to trees and an orchard in the town. There were no injuries.

#### **Iowa County**

**3 ENE Parnell**

**11 1540CST 0.1 10 0 0 Tornado (F0)**  
**1541CST**

A trained storm spotter reported a brief tornado touchdown along county road F52 between Parnell and Holbrook. Only minor damage to vegetation was observed. There were no injuries.

#### **Washington County**

**3 WNW Kalona**

**11 1550CST 0.1 10 0 0 Tornado (F0)**  
**1553CST**

A trained storm spotter reported a brief tornado touchdown near Kalona. There were no injuries or damage

#### **Johnson County**

**3 S Oxford to  
1 SSE Oxford**

**11 1600CST 2 50 0 0 25K Tornado (F0)**  
**1605CST**

An F0 tornado moved across rural areas south of Oxford, and destroyed a barn and a garage at two farms. There were no injuries.

#### **Johnson County**

**Tiffin**

**11 1602CST 0.1 10 0 0 Tornado (F0)**  
**1603CST**

Law enforcement reported a brief tornado touchdown in Tiffin. No damage resulted from the F0 tornado, and there were no injuries.

#### **Benton County**

**2 S Mt Auburn**

**11 1620CST 0.1 10 0 0 18K Tornado (F0)**  
**1621CST**

Law enforcement reported a brief tornado touchdown at a farm south of Mt. Auburn. The F0 tornado downed large pine and maple trees, and destroyed a barn. There were no injuries.

#### **Johnson County**

**Swisher**

**11 1620CST 0.1 10 0 0 Tornado (F0)**  
**1621CST**

An F0 tornado touched down briefly in Swisher. Emergency management reported no major damage, and there were no injuries.

#### **Linn County**

**Cedar Rapids**

**11 1620CST 0.1 10 0 0 Tornado (F0)**  
**1621CST**

Emergency management reported a brief tornado touchdown in southeast Cedar Rapids near Kirkwood Community College. There were no injuries and no damage reported. The F0 tornado was observed sucking water from roof tops near the FAA control tower at the Cedar Rapids Airport.

Summary of 4/11/01 event: (For additional details, see individual reports for the date.)

Strong surface low pressure lifted from western Kansas into Minnesota during the event. A trailing dryline also moved eastward across Iowa. Additionally, dewpoints in the mid 60s, and extreme wind shear made the environment ripe for rotating supercells. Tornado watches issued by the Storm Prediction Center highlighted the "particularly dangerous" nature of the situation. Numerous funnel clouds and tornados occurred during the event across eastern Iowa. Most of the tornadic activity involved brief touchdowns



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### IOWA, East Central and Southeast

of F0 tornados. Houses, outbuildings, and trees sustained damage throughout the area, but there were no injuries reported during the event. There were also isolated reported of small pea size hail, and 50 to 55 mph winds in extreme northwest Illinois.

IAZ042-052-054-066>068-  
078-089-099

**14 0530CST 0 0 Snowmelt Flooding**  
**30 2359CST**

Snowmelt flooding, starting in March, continued across eastern Iowa with the Wapsipinicon and Iowa rivers above flood stage at the start of the month. During the first week of April a strong storm system fanned warm temperatures northward accelerating the snowmelt across the upper Mississippi river basin. Another storm system mid month sent even warmer temperatures surging northward along with severe thunderstorms and heavy rain. The prolonged abnormally warm conditions resulted in rapid snow melt and produced near record flooding over counties bordering the Mississippi River. Additional heavy rain fell over the headwaters of the Mississippi during the third week of April. This added streamflow led to secondary crests over Minnesota, Northern Iowa, and Wisconsin, and helped to prolong the flooding, or broaden crests on the Mississippi from the Wisconsin/ Illinois border to counties north of St Louis Missouri. Strong winds accompanying the storms forced water over sandbag dykes and levees causing additional damage. Communities impacted by the flooding called upon the National Guard, prison inmates, and hundreds of volunteers to help with sandbagging efforts. By late month 10 Iowa counties had been declared disaster areas, with damages estimated over 4.7 million dollars. Other preliminary estimates showed 40 homes had been destroyed, 62 homes suffered major damage, 1,516 homes sustained some damage, and 129 businesses were closed due to flooding. Snowmelt flooding also impacted the Cedar River as water from Minnesota and the upper Cedar River basin moved downstream. Flooding continued along the Mississippi River from Dubuque IA to Keokuk IA into early May.

**Clinton County**  
**2 SE Lost Nation**

**15 1415CST 0.1 10 0 0 Tornado (F0)**  
**1416CST**

A trained storm spotter reported a brief tornado touchdown. There were no injuries and no damage reported.

Event summary for 4/15/01: High instability made atmospheric conditions ripe for small hail and funnel clouds from mid afternoon through early evening. Hail from 1/4 to 1/2 inch was common over eastern Iowa and northwest Illinois, and spotters also reported several funnels, only one that touched down as a brief tornado.

IAZ040>042-051>054-  
063>068-076>078-  
087>089-098>099

**Buchanan - Delaware - Dubuque - Benton - Linn - Jones - Jackson - Iowa - Johnson - Cedar - Clinton - Muscatine - Scott -  
Keokuk - Washington - Louisa - Jefferson - Henry - Des Moines - Van Buren - Lee**

**23 0000CST 0 0 Gradient Wind**  
**1900CST**

Summary for 4/23/01 gradient wind event:

A vigorous low pressure system in Wisconsin brought a trailing cold front through Iowa and Illinois. During the early morning, around 12 AM CST, law enforcement reported a semi-trailer truck blown over along Interstate 80 in Iowa County. A south wind gusted between 40 and 50 mph over a small part of east central Iowa during the early morning, including the Washington, Cedar Rapids, and Iowa City areas. The area of strong winds moved north of the area by 1 AM CST. Then from late morning through sunset, a southwest wind gusted over 40 mph across eastern Iowa. The highest measured speed was 48 mph at the Clinton Municipal Airport. No significant damage was reported.

**Buchanan County**  
**Independence to**  
**3.5 NE Independence**

**23 0726CST 5 220 0 3 1M Tornado (F1)**  
**0740CST**



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### IOWA, East Central and Southeast

Summary for Independence tornado event on 4/23/01:

The exit region of a vigorous mid-level jet streak helped create deep layer convergence in eastern Iowa along a surface cold front, during the morning of 4/23/01. The atmosphere was only marginally unstable, but shear values were very high. A study of the event at the NWS in the Quad Cities suggest that the tornado was non-descending in nature, with the rotation originating near the surface and building upward. Spotters reported no lightning or thunder with the tornado, which the local study suggests indicated rapid development during the initial stages of the storm. There was no evidence from radar data that a tornado occurred. The tornado touched down near the middle school in southwest Independence, and tracked through the west central and north central parts of the community, before lifting 3.5 miles northeast of Independence. The tornado path was continuous, 5 miles long and 1/8 mile wide. The tornado was rated F1 on the Fujita scale following a NWS Survey. Three people suffered minor injuries from flying debris, and were treated at the local hospital. Emergency management officials estimated the tornado caused a total of \$ 1 million in damage. A total of 31 homes were damaged, two severely. 20 businesses and 20 vehicles were also damaged.

### MISSOURI, Northeast

#### Clark County

##### Luray

**05 0702CST 0 0 Hail (1.00)**

One inch hail reported by cooperative observer.

Event Summary for 4/5/01: (For additional details, see individual reports for the date)

An area of showers and thunderstorms overspread parts of far northeast Missouri, southeast Iowa, and west central Illinois during the morning hours. The primary threats from the storms were large hail and torrential rains, with amounts up to three inches. From the morning through the early afternoon, hail up to the size of golf balls was reported, along with urban street flooding, and flooding of county roads. One person suffered minor injuries after being struck by lightning, and lightning also struck a house, setting it on fire. A surface low and warm front lifted northeast through the region during the afternoon and evening, followed by a trailing cold front. This system produced hail below severe limits across the area from late afternoon through the evening hours.

#### MOZ010

##### Clark

**15 0700CST 0 0 Snowmelt Flooding**  
**30 2359CST**

Prolonged flooding affected several states bordering the Mississippi River when storm systems fanned abnormally warm air northward. The warm air coupled with heavy rain from severe thunderstorms caused a deep snowpack over the headwaters of the Mississippi to melt rapidly. Near record flooding occurred over sections of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, and Missouri. Additional heavy rain falling over the upper reaches of the Mississippi prolonged the flooding and lead to a broad crest. Highways and roads over Iowa and Illinois were closed due to flooding and 18 counties in these states were declared disaster areas with damage estimates in the millions. In Clark County the Missouri Department of Transportation closed U.S.136 and U.S. 61 highways near Alexandria for several days and rerouted traffic through St. Francisville.